

(c) Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Kindly amend claims 1, 3, 6, 8 and 9 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims that are or were in the application follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner comprising magnetic toner particles each comprising at least a binder resin and a magnetic iron oxide, wherein:

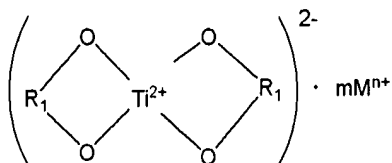
the magnetic toner has a saturation magnetization δ_s being in the range of 5 to 60 Am²/kg and a remanent magnetization δ_r being in the range of 0.1 to 10.0 Am²/kg in a measured magnetic field of 795.8 kA/m; and

the binder resin contains a polyester component polymerized by using a Ti chelate compound having a ligand selected from the group consisting of a diol, a dicarboxylic acid, and an oxycarboxylic acid as a catalyst.

2. (Cancelled)

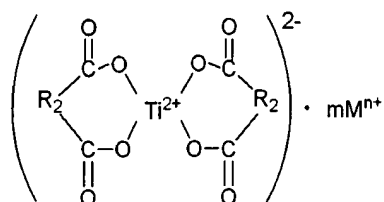
3. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein the Ti chelate compound is represented by any one of the following formulae (I) to (VIII) and hydrates thereof:

Formula (I)



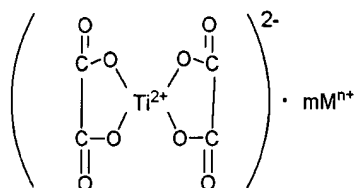
(In the formula (I), R_1 denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when $n=1$, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when $n=2$ [[.]]);

Formula (II)



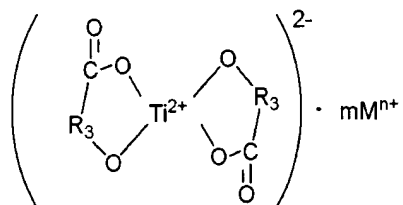
(In the formula (II), R_2 denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when $n=1$, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when $n=2$ [[.]]);

Formula (III)



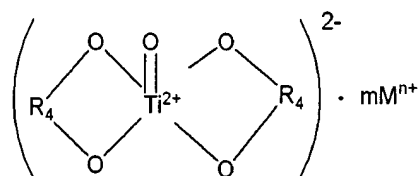
(In the formula (III), M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when $n=1$, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when $n=2$ [[.]]);

Formula (IV)



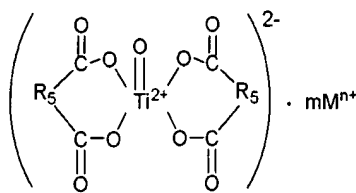
(In the formula (IV), R₃ denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2[[]]);

Formula (V)



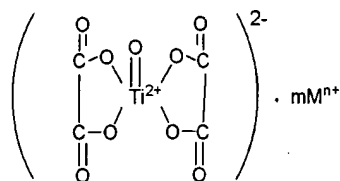
(In the formula (V), R₄ denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2[[]]);

Formula (VI)



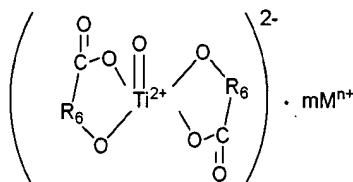
(In the formula (VI), R_5 denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when $n=1$, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when $n=2$ [[.]]);

Formula (VII)



(In the formula (VII), M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, and or an organic ammonium ion when $n=1$, and or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when $n=2$ [[.]]);

Formula (VIII)



(In the formula (VIII), R_6 denotes one of an alkylene group and or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, $n=2$ when $m=1$, $n=1$ when $m=2$,

and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, ~~and~~ or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, ~~and~~ or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2[[.]]).

4. (Original) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic iron oxide comprises 0.1 to 2.0% by mass of an Si element.

5. (Original) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, further comprising hydrophobic silica treated with hexamethyldisilazane and with silicone oil.

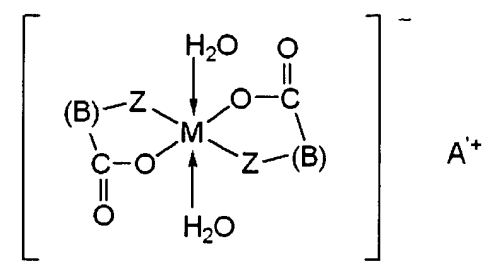
6. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein an average circularity of the magnetic toner particles of the magnetic toner which have equivalent circle diameters of 3 μm or more and 400 μm or less measured with a flow ~~type~~ particle image analyzer, is 0.930 or more and less than 0.970.

7. (Original) A magnetic toner according to claim 3, wherein the Ti chelate compound is represented by any one of the formulae (II), (III), (VI), and (VII) and hydrates thereof.

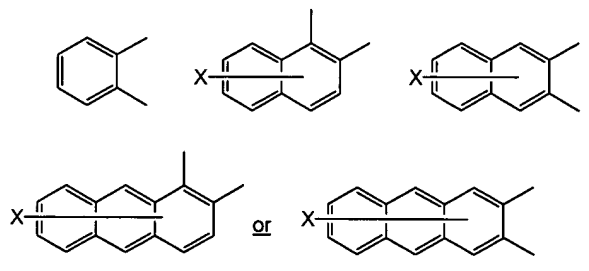
8. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein the polyester component comprises a compound having a structure containing oxyalkylene ether of a novolak ~~type~~ phenolic resin as an alcohol component.

9. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, further comprising a metal aromatic hydroxycarboxylate compound of aromatic hydroxyl carboxylic acid represented by the following formula (13).

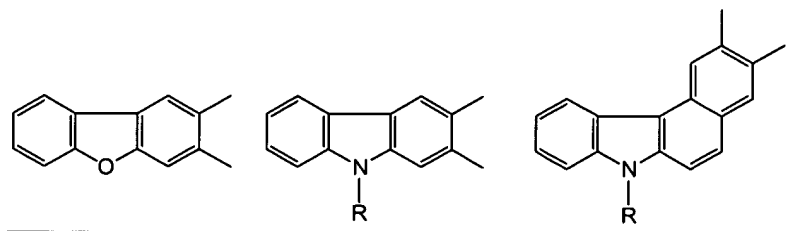
Formula (13)



wherein M represents a coordinating central metal; (B) represents (i) a compound of the following structure:



which may contain a substituent, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, or a nitro group); or (ii)



wherein, R represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group having 2 to 18 carbon atoms.

A⁺ represents hydrogen, a sodium ion, a potassium ion, an ammonium ion, or an aliphatic ammonium ion and Z represents -O- or -C(=O)-O-.)